

Ladies and gentlemen...

I believe the current proposal to further decrease regulation of broadcast media is a travesty and an obvious effort by the Administration to pander to its big business constituency.

As a former media employee now living in one of the top five media markets in the country, I can clearly see the bias that has developed over the past decade since I was employed in media. The "ClearChannel-ization" of the industry has definitely limited the options and viewpoints available to the general public...and the only beneficiaries of deregulation have been the media mega-corporations and their stockholders.

Here in the Dallas/ Fort Worth market, the major daily newspaper and one of the "big three" television stations are owned by the same corporation and the slant and approach to the news in both media are very similar and reflect the views of the corporate management. I am grateful that the corporation in question is not one of the national mega-corporations.

As an avid listener of NPR broadcasting, Nightline and other in depth news programming, I must commend Commissioners Adelstein and Copps for their recent appearances and their advocacy of what is so obviously right for the American people. Chairman Powell's efforts to justify this action in recent media appearances were so transparent as to be embarrassing. I can't believe he, or anyone else, genuinely believes the American public is so stupid.

In summary...I want rules in place that serve the public, rather than private, interest. I oppose taking a vote that leads to more media consolidation. On June 2nd, I urge you to retain the current ownership rules.

Thank you.

Deborah Angell Smith